

SESSION OF 2004

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON HOUSE BILL NO. 2737**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Public Health and Welfare

**Brief\***

HB 2737, as amended by Senate Committee, amends statutes that are a part of the Athletic Trainers Registration Act under which athletic trainers are registered by the Board of Healing Arts. The bill also amends an act that protects certain health care providers from liability when acting in specified emergency situations. Two other statutes in which the term "athletic trainer" appears are amended in the bill, one a part of the act under which physical therapists are licensed and regulated and the other a part of the Occupational Therapy Practice Act. The major change made by the bill is to change the nomenclature used to refer to the credentialing of athletic trainers from registered to licensed. Although the terminology is changed, the laws continue to protect the use of specified titles and abbreviations, not a scope of practice. Other changes:

- ! make it clear that an athletic trainer, in order to practice, must file a practice protocol signed by each person licensed to practice the healing arts who delegates acts that constitute athletic training to the athletic trainer;
- ! authorize the Board of Healing Arts to issue temporary permits to practice for a period of not more than six months to applicants for a license who have met the requirements for a license and who have paid the application fee;
- ! create a new category of license to be known as an inactive license; and
- ! make changes in the statutory maximum fees the Board may establish by rules and regulations and create new maximum fees to reflect changes made by other amendments.

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.kslegislature.org>

The Senate Committee amendments are technical and pick up several statutes that use the term registered rather than licensed athletic trainer, correct grammatical errors, reconcile fee language in the text of the statutes and the fee schedule set out in the bill, and provide that persons who were registered at the time the bill becomes effective will be deemed to be licensed under the new provisions of HB 2737.

## **Background**

HB 2737 was introduced at the request of the Kansas Athletic Trainers Society whose representatives appeared before the Senate Committee in support of the bill. Support was also expressed by a Topeka physician, and an individual who works for Washburn University. Written testimony in support of the bill was supplied by five other persons. A spokesperson for the Department of Health and Environment opposed the bill on the basis of failure of the entity seeking to change their credentialing status not having complied with the Kansas Act on Credentialing of Health Care Providers. A representative of the Board of Healing Arts noted amendments suggested by the Board had been made by the House Committee.

The fiscal note indicates the Board of Healing Arts would anticipate additional expenditures of \$1,000 in FY 2005 for printing licenses to replace registrations and the costs of implementing fee changes.